TESTIMONY OF THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL PUBLIC OVERSIGHT ROUNDTABLE



Testimony of Victoria Syphax Fiscal Officer

Anthony A. Williams Mayor

Before the Special Committee on Local, Small and Disadvantaged Business Enterprises Councilmember Kwame R. Brown, Chair

> Wednesday, June 21, 2006 11:00 A.M. The John A. Wilson Building, Room 412 1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.

Good morning Chairman Brown, members of the Special Committee, and guests. I am Victoria Syphax, Fiscal Officer for the Office of the Attorney General for the District of Columbia. I am pleased to have the opportunity to update you on the Office of the Attorney General's (OAG) utilization of Local, Small, and Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (LSDBEs) in its outside contracting needs through the first two quarters of FY 2006.

As you know, District law provides each agency with an entire fiscal year to accomplish its LSDBE contracting and procurement goal. For FY 2006, OAG's expendable funds eligible for award to LSDBEs is \$4,848,272.00. I am pleased to report that through March 31, OAG had awarded \$2,037,886.23, or 42% of our set-aside goal, to LSDBEs. Attached to this testimony are copies of summary reports that document our effort to date. We are very much on course, then, to bringing the agency into compliance for several fiscal years in a row.

Overall, LSDBE compliance tracking is the shared responsibility of OAG's Deputy of the Support Services Division and the Office of the Chief Financial Officer. While we may have been somewhat late in reporting to the Department of Small and Local Business Development, steps have been identified to assure timely reporting in the future. For example, we will generate a monthly in-house report, so as to better ensure that our quarterly reports are timely and allow for taking any corrective action if we are not on target to meet our goal. Relevant reporting deadlines will also be incorporated into our electronic calendaring system.

OAG is committed to the continued awarding of its contracts to LSDBEs, thereby taking the opportunity for the agency to reinvest in the District and its communities. I thank you for this opportunity to brief you on OAG's FY 2006 LSDBE contracting efforts, and I will now be pleased to answer any questions you may have.